Greetings to all of you from the Apna Skool family. Once again, we are presenting our quarterly newsletter chronicling the events of the Apna Skool from July to September 2021. I hope this time ahead will bring more opportunity and prosperity to society. It is a pleasure for us to express our heartfelt gratitude to all well-wishers, donors, and sponsors in the past and present, and partners in our effort to educate children of migrant workers who represent one of the most severely underprivileged groups in India. We again reiterate that apart from the abundant love and monetary support, we look forward to your comments and suggestions. Please feel free to send your comments.

Apna Skool teachers went to Bihar for seasonal program where, they have organized several camp for vaccination, and Labour registration/ Aadhar card and distributed the previously registered labour card.

The Apna Kool children are inspired by Savitribai Phule’s extraordinary work and motivate other children and older girls to study and teach young kids, in their respective villages. This monsoon season, Hema, Pooja, Malti and other students taught kids in their respective vilages.

We encourage our students to cultivate the habit of reading and hence we have started many libraries in different villages near Kanpur and Bihar. Sharmila is running the library in Padariya village in Bihar.

In coordinator visited workers villages in U.P and distributed educationa materials, books, notebooks, pen-pencils, and Erasbale/reusable pad for writing. These students have received the erasable pad which donated by Raju Gupta.
**July 2021**

**Workshop for teaching on an online platform for Apna Skool students.**

Apna Skool has organized a two days workshop for all the teachers on how to teach on the online platform using available sources. We have introduced with google meet, zoom, and how to use the pen - tablet for writing on a whiteboard and introduced all the tools of view my board and OneNote from MS Office. All Apna Skool teachers and coordinators total of 15 members have attended the workshop. Currently, we have 40 students in three different groups (from class 5th to 12th) and four teachers and two coordinators are taking the online classes, few more teachers will take online classes in the coming month.

Teachers and coordinators who are taking the online classes:

1. Ramachandran sir
2. Mukesh Kumar
3. Murari Kumar
4. Urmila Verma
5. Nirmala Kashyap
6. Manju Bala
7. Kanak Sharma

![Figure 1: Ramachandran Sir, Urmila Verma, Manju bala and Kanak taking the online classes.](image)

**New recipient of Pragati Foundation “Sudha Opportunity Scholarship” for 2021-2022.**

Pragati Foundation founded by Dr. Ashok Gupta, an alumnus of IIT Kanpur, supports meritorious students to continue their studies in Class 9 and beyond through the Sudha Opportunity Scholarship (SOS), constituted in the name of his wife, late Mrs. Sudha Gupta. Currently, 19 students of Apna Skool are receiving SOS Scholarship, which covers their tuition fees, books, and other sundry educational expenses.

This year 3 students for class 9 and 2 students for class 10 were selected for the 2021-2022 session and 14 SOS scholarship recipients were continued the scholarship for the next class.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>New SOS recipient</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Class</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Halida</td>
<td>9th</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ashok</td>
<td>9th</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pooja</td>
<td>9th</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brahma</td>
<td>10th</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kesar</td>
<td>10th</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

![Figure 2: New SOS recipients: Halida, Pooja, Keshar, Brahma and Ashok](image)
Apna Skool student’s results in U.P board exam (10\textsuperscript{th} and 12\textsuperscript{th}):

This year six new students of class 12\textsuperscript{th} and seven students of class 10\textsuperscript{th} were supposed to write the 2021 board exam but due to the pandemic exam did not happen but results were announced based on pre-board and 11\textsuperscript{th} class marks. Here are the results of class 10\textsuperscript{th} and 12\textsuperscript{th}.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Aminul</td>
<td>84.83</td>
<td>Suraj Kumar</td>
<td>70.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anjani</td>
<td>83.16</td>
<td>Hema</td>
<td>62.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pankaj</td>
<td>78.16</td>
<td>Jahanvi</td>
<td>62.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Soni</td>
<td>73.5</td>
<td>Alka</td>
<td>61.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mukesh</td>
<td>72.33</td>
<td>Roli</td>
<td>57.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anjali</td>
<td>71</td>
<td>Ranu</td>
<td>56.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shivansh</td>
<td>67</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Apna Skool students board exam results

12\textsuperscript{th} Class

- Suraj Kumar: 70.60 %
- Anjani Prajapati: 83.16 %
- Roli: 57.20 %
- Ranu: 56.80 %
- Pankaj Kumar: 78.16 %
- Soni: 73.5 %
- Anjali: 71 %
- Shivansh: 67 %

10\textsuperscript{th} Class

- Aminul Ali: 84.83 %
- Jahanvi: 62.40 %
- Alka: 61.20 %
- Roli: 57.20 %
- Anjali: 71 %
- Soni: 73.5 %
- Shivansh: 67 %

Apna Skool Newsletter July to September 2021
Apna Skool children got inspiration from Savitribai Phule’s extraordinary work; Hema, Pooja, and Malti teaching at their villages.

Savitribai Phule was an Indian social reformer, educationalist, and poet from Maharashtra. She is regarded as the first female teacher of India. Along with her husband, Jyotirao Phule, she played an important and vital role in improving women’s rights in India. The Apna Kool children are inspired by Savitribai Phule’s extraordinary work and motivate other children and older girls to study, in their respective villages.

Hema has completed her 12th board exam. She is from Telari village (Nawada, Bihar) and she is teaching 8-10 students. Pooja is in class 9 and she is from Benipur (Nawada, Bihar) and she is teaching 15-20 students and Malti is in class 10, she is from Pali village (Nawada, Bihar) and she is also teaching 15-20 students at their homes. These girls will return to Kanpur next month for their studies.

D-Talk (Conversation with Mukesh): Brick kiln to book (Enabling Education to all):

Mukesh had a D-talk where he talked about his Journey from brick to book. Currently, he is one of the coordinators of Apna Skool, from where has he started his journey two decades ago. You can watch this on YouTube link is given below.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-5vwMjvG08
**Project Bihar: (July to October):**

Every year Apna Skool teachers go to Bihar for the monsoon season. This Year two teachers; Pradeep Kumar and Shyambabu of Apna Skool went to Bihar on 10th July. Initially, they surveyed the villages Chiraiya, Gambhirpur, Hajipur, Paura, Hanuman Garhi, and Mathgulni for the vaccination and labor registration work. We have organized multiple vaccination camps in these villages with the help of local government hospitals.

Apna Skool in Bihar (Nawada) Another dimension of continuing education is to ensure that Apna Skool children attend regular Government schools in their home village when they return home for monsoon. As we are doing this activity since 2016, this year too, our teachers Pradeep Kumar and Shyambabu went to the villages of the migrant workers for running the seasonal centers in Bihar. This year, we have two teaching centers covering four villages (Hajipur, Paura, Chiraiya, and Gambhirpur). This initiative was taken to ensure that the migrated students continue going to school even after they leave Kanpur and to encourage them and their parents to come to the same brick kilns so that they can get regular education.

**August 2021**

**Education continuity of Apna Skool Students in Monsoon session.**

This monsoon Mukesh (coordinator Apna Skool) went to Bihar on August 10, for one month. He has coordinated and interacted with the workers in the Chiraiya, Gambhirpur, Hajipur, and Paura. He has visited Telari, Benipur, and other villages and met with government primary schools for admission of these migrant workers’ children. He also taught at Chiraiya village.

Apna Skool coordinators Manoj Shukla and Brijnarayan Sharma followed the children to their homes in Banda & Hamirpur in U.P facilitated their admission in the schools in their villages and helped with School
Uniform, books, and Stationery. In this education continuity program, we have distributed the education materials to 170 students.

spent July 3rd to 11th in Bihar and covered Villages, and visited Banda District during 18th to 20th July and similarly covered Villages. Students, who are residents of Kanpur took admission to Government primary school. They continued to go into government for these four months. We regularly checked whether their continued progress.

**SJV foundation donated smartphones to Students for attending the online classes**

SJV foundation has provided smartphones to four Apna Skool students for attending the online classes.

students so that they will continue their studies from their homes. All these students are attending the evening online classes organized by Apna Skool teachers and coordinators.

**Independence Day celebration (15th August):**

Every year we celebrate this day with great enthusiasm and patriotic fervor. Apna Skool family celebrated the 75th year of independence at its center. On this special occasion, at Maharajpur and center in Chiraiya village and Hajipur Village, we started with a morning march then flag hoisting. Some students gave patriotic speeches and recited slogans. In the end, sweats and fruits were distributed to all children and members present at the center.
Senior girls students (mains stream schools students) of Apna Skool continuing their schools from Apna Kendra:

Seven girls students studying in different classes at various mainstream schools from different centers of Apna Skool are not continuing their education and attending their schools from Apna Kendra. All girls went through the RT-PCR test. All the results were negative. Apna Kendra has proper infrastructure for these students. To take care of these kids, we have appointed a warden (an experienced teacher of Apna Skool, Urmila Verma). Two boys, Pankaj and Ashok, are living at the house of our coordinator Laxmikant Shukla under the seasonal hostel program. These students will go to their schools from the Apna Kendra. We have distributed a lunch box and water bottle for taking the lunch to school.

Teachers Day celebration, 5th September:

We celebrate Teachers’ day every year throughout the country on 5th September. Students express their gratitude and appreciation for their teachers on this day. This day is dedicated to Dr. Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan – the second President of India. The great academic philosopher, and one of the most well-known diplomats, scholar, president of India, and above all a teacher. As a tribute to this great teacher, his birthday has been observed as teachers' day.

Reopening of Apna Skool Tatiyaganj center:

After the guidelines from the government to open the primary schools. We have reopened the Apna Skool Tatiyaganj center on September 6 and within a week, we have started the nutrition program at Tatiyaganj center, currently, 27 students are enrolled at this center, and in Maharajpur total of 42 students are enrolled.
Apna Skool tree plantation drive by SJV Foundation.

Trees are an essential part of our environment. We need oxygen for living and trees to provide us. Every year in monsoon season Apna Skool teachers and students run tree plantation drives in Kanpur as well as in Bihar. With help of the Apna Skool team and workers of the village, 200 plants of different species (Neem, Mangos, Guava, Amla, and Jamun) were planted in Chiraiya, Hanuman Garhi village in Nawada district, and 100 trees were planted in Kanpur.

Sewing course for six Girls from Chiraiya village

Six girls from Chiraiya village were enrolled for a sewing course at a sewing center in Warisaliganj near Chiraiya village. These girls stay in their villages with their grandparents while their parents come to Kanpur at brick-kilns for work. SJV foundation is supporting all the expenses for the sewing course for these girls.

Vaccination Camp in U.P and Bihar:

All the brick-kilns are in their villages after the beginning of the monsoon season, very few were vaccinated in Kanpur,

So Apna Skoot team, with the help of local government hospitals, has organized multiple camps for vaccination in Chiraiya, Hajipur, Hanuman Garhi. More the 1000 workers have been vaccinated in these, we will have a few more vaccination camps for the remaining people of the village. A vaccination camp was organized at Maharajpur center, workers staying at brick-kiln got vaccinated.
Camp for the Ration Card - Aadhar card and Labour Card Distribution

In every monsoon season when the Apna Skool team reaches Bihar, they organize camps for the Aadhar card or labour card, or ration card. 50 workers of the Chiraiya, Hajipur, and Morarbigha villages have received the labor card. Again a camp was set up for Ration card and Aadhar card registration in Chiraiya village.

Apna Skool Library at the different centers of Bihar and UP.

We encourage our students to cultivate the habit of reading and hence we have started many libraries in different villages near Kanpur and Bihar. These libraries are managed by the older children of Apna Skool. The villagers also participate and discuss social issues. We are delighted to see the keen participation and involvement of Apna Skool students as agents of change in our society.

Currently, we have 6 running libraries, 3 in Bihar and 3 in U.P. Apna Skool coordinators, teachers and students are managing the library at all these different centers. We have 200 collections of different genres of books, for different age groups at each center. Apna Skool has run a mobile library at Dedupur center, where we organize a session with villagers and create awareness about girl child education, family planning, cleanliness, children teaching their parents to do the signature, etc.
Success Story:

Anjani is dreaming to become a software developer and NavGurukul will help to achieve this.

Ten years ago Anjani’s parents were working at Saran brick-kilns and she started coming to Apna Skool center from 2009 while attending Apna Skool she has also helped her parents in brick making. She had studied till class 3 at this center when for two consecutive years her parents were sent to brick-kilns in Haryana instead. She resumed her studies at Apna Skool Tatiyaganj when they started coming again to Kanpur and kept in touch with us, as she completed her class 10 from Adarsh Inter College and secured 83 % in her 10th board exam.

At present time, her father, after discontinuing brick making work took to selling Chart and Papdi plying a handcart in Bhathakothi village near Chaubepur. Her mother works in a mess. She has a sister and a brother. Anjani and her sister help her father for preparing the Papdi at their home. Now that she has been selected for a one-year software engineering program at Navgurukul, after the completion of the program, she dreams to become a software developer.

Apna Skool students continuing their education in mainstream schools

Apna Skool students continue their studies from mainstream schools. These students are from classes 6 to 12th and above. We are focusing on our girl’s students and helping them to continue their studies. This year 6 students have completed class 12th and 7 students have completed their class 10th board exam. 2 girls students (Anjali and Anjani) are doing polytechnic and diploma in software engineering.

Function centers of Apna Skool (July to September 2021):

Due to the second wave of Covid-19, Apna Skool has started online for the students of class 6th to 12th. Apna Skool Tatiyaganj were closed during the time.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S.N</th>
<th>Name of Centre</th>
<th>Name of Teacher</th>
<th>Centre Timing</th>
<th>Student enrollment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Chiraiya +Gambhirpur (Bihar)</td>
<td>1. Shyam Babu 2. Mukesh</td>
<td>9:00 to 3:00</td>
<td>70 70 70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Hajipur + Paur (Bihar)</td>
<td>(1) Pradeep</td>
<td>9:00 to 3:00</td>
<td>60 25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Tatiyaganj-2 Apna Skool</td>
<td>(1) Nirmala (2) Kanak</td>
<td>60 25</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Rama Apna Skool (Rama+Modi+Deepak)</td>
<td>(1) Mithlesh</td>
<td>9:00 to 3:00</td>
<td>23 30</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Currently, 4 teachers and 2 coordinators are taking online classes for three different groups (Group A: class 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th; Group B: class 7th & class 8th; Group C: class 5th & 6th)
Apna Skool Organizational Structure

**Principal Co-ordinators:** Ms. Vijaya Ramachandran, Shivam Tripathi
Contact information: Vijaya Ramachandran
  
  Tel: +91 7408900999; Email: vijayav26@gmail.com
Shivam Tripathi
  
  Tel: +91 9005663618; Email: shiva@iitk.ac.in

**Sub Co-ordinators:** Laxmikant Shukla, B.N. Sharma, Sangeeta Verma, Raju Gaur, Mukesh, Murari Kumar

**Transport Co-ordinator:** Manoj Shukla, Kripa Shankar Shukla

**Health mentor:** Sunita Srivastava

**Support our work at the following details:**
For making your donations, please write a cheque in favor of or transfer the fund into its following bank details and intimate us for providing you a receipt that will enable you to claim income tax deduction u/s 80G.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Support Our Work at Following details</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>For Foreign donations</strong></td>
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</table>

**Volunteers**
- Prayas, a volunteer group, Students of IIT Kanpur

**Important Links:**
- [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NJhOEa4moNAA](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NJhOEa4moNAA) A short film on Apna Skools (courtesy Sahara TV)
- [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WClEgMqdsX0](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WClEgMqdsX0) Annual Day function and opinion of parents
- Webpage: [https://sites.google.com/site/apnaskools/](https://sites.google.com/site/apnaskools/)
- Facebook page: [https://www.facebook.com/apnaskool](https://www.facebook.com/apnaskool)

Newsletter compiled by

**Vijaya Didi and** Apna Skool Team.